

PUBLIC HEARING of the Burrillville Town Council to be held Wednesday, October 20, 2010 at 7:30 P.M. in the Community Room, Jesse M. Smith Memorial Library, 100 Tinkham Lane, Harrisville for and within the Town of Burrillville.

PRESENT: Council President Nancy F. Binns, Councilors Wallace F. Lees, Robert A. Bishop, Margaret L. Dudley, Kevin D. Heitke, John M. Karmozyn Jr. and Norman C. Mainville.

MEMBERS ABSENT:

The purpose of the hearing is an informational session to review the questions that will be included on the November 2, 2010 ballot related to charter amendments.

Council President Nancy F. Binns explained that the questions being presented to the voters were essentially the same as recommended by the Charter Review Commission. Council President Binns said that several had been modified to ensure that they would be legally binding.

The following questions had been adopted by the Burrillville Town Council for inclusion on the November 2, 2010 ballot.

1. AMENDMENT TO BURRILLVILLE HOME RULE CHARTER ELECTIONS

(Resolution of the Town Council adopted July 14, 2010)

Shall the Charter be amended by adding Section 2.07 which will provide a recall provision whereby voters may remove elected members of the Town Council and School Committee? A recall initiative could not be initiated during the first six (6) or the last twelve (12) months of an incumbent's term. In order for a recall initiative to proceed, recall petitions must be signed by at least fifteen (15) percent of the total number of persons registered to vote at the last regular election.

2. AMENDMENT TO BURRILLVILLE HOME RULE CHARTER TOWN COUNCIL

(Resolution of the Town Council adopted July 14, 2010)

In the event a recall provision is approved as summarized above, shall the following language be added to Section 3.04 entitled "Forfeiture of Office" so that a Town Council member who is recalled forfeits his or her office?

E. "Is removed from the Town Council via recall as specified in §2.07"

3. AMENDMENT TO BURRILLVILLE HOME RULE CHARTER SCHOOL COMMITTEE

(Resolution of the Town Council adopted July 14, 2010)

In the event a recall provision is approved as summarized above, shall the following language be added to Section 11.04 entitled “Forfeiture of Office” so that a School Committee member who is recalled forfeits his or her office?

E. “Is removed from the School Committee via recall as specified in §2.07”.

4. AMENDMENT TO BURRILLVILLE HOME RULE CHARTER TOWN COUNCIL

(Resolution of the Town Council adopted July 14, 2010)

Shall Section 3.14 entitled, “Powers and Duties” be amended by adding language to allow consolidation of services and greater flexibility in use of Town resources as follows?

Q. The Town Council shall have the authority to merge common duties, functions and services of any agency of the Town of Burrillville, including the Burrillville Sewer Commission and Burrillville School Department.

5. AMENDMENT TO BURRILLVILLE HOME RULE CHARTER TOWN COUNCIL

(Resolution of the Town Council adopted July 14, 2010)

Shall language in Section 3.14 (O) entitled “Powers and Duties” be changed to give the Town Council the authority to ratify collective bargaining agreements under School Committee jurisdiction and provide that no collective bargaining agreement shall be valid until it is ratified by the Town Council?

6. AMENDMENT TO BURRILLVILLE HOME RULE CHARTER TOWN COUNCIL

(Resolution of the Town Council adopted July 14, 2010)

In order to avoid excessive costs associated with advertising in the two major newspapers of general circulation in the Town, shall Section 3.16 entitled, “Ordinances” be amended so that it allows for the publication of proposed and enacted ordinances in summary form rather than complete ordinances?

7. AMENDMENT TO BURRILLVILLE HOME RULE CHARTER GENERAL PROVISIONS

(Resolution of the Town Council adopted July 14, 2010)

In order to avoid excessive costs associated with advertising in the two major newspapers of general circulation in the Town, shall language defining ‘publish’ or ‘published’ be amended to allow advertisement in publications other than newspapers as follows:

E. “Publish. The words “publish” or “published” as used in this Charter, shall mean to cause to be printed as an advertisement, in one or more publications having a general circulation in the Town of Burrillville, and in any other manner established by ordinance.

8. AMENDMENT TO BURRILLVILLE HOME RULE CHARTER PERSONNEL BOARD

(Resolution of the Town Council adopted July 14, 2010)

Shall Section 9.01 be modified to delete the word “regular” and add language which would allow the Town Council to reassign duties from the Personnel Board to a Personnel Department should one be created?

9. AMENDMENT TO BURRILLVILLE HOME RULE CHARTER GENERAL PROVISIONS

(Resolution of the Town Council adopted July 14, 2010)

Shall Section 19.09 entitled, ‘Prohibitions’, be amended by adding language which would explicitly prohibit discrimination on the basis of sex, sexual orientation or gender identity?

10. AMENDMENT TO BURRILLVILLE HOME RULE CHARTER GENERAL PROVISIONS

(Resolution of the Town Council adopted July 14, 2010)

Shall the Charter be amended by adding Section 19.16. Qualifications, which will provide that all members of any Town Council appointed board or commission shall be qualified electors of the Town of Burrillville?

There was review and discussion of the each question. The purpose of the proposed changes was explained.

VOTED to adjourn.

Motion by Councilor Norman C. Mainville. Seconded by Councilor Wallace F. Lees. The vote was unanimous. Voting in favor of the motion were Council President Nancy F. Binns and Councilors Wallace F. Lees, Robert A. Bishop, Margaret L. Dudley, Kevin D. Heitke, John M. Karmozyn Jr. and Norman C. Mainville.

Louise R. Phaneuf, Town Clerk